

September 18, 2008

Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc.

Vol. XXX No. 1

WHAT	NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF PSPCS
WHERE	DES MOINES MASONIC TEMPLE 2208 S. 223rd St. (Take Midway exit #149 west off I-5...go to first stop light west of Pacific Hwy. South...Turn right.)
WHEN	Thursday, September 18th 7:00 p.m. till 10:00 p.m. (doors open about 6:00 p.m.)
WHY	The first meeting of our 30th great year. A short business meeting..Auction (One item lot per member please)..Door Prize..Show & Tell..Members' trade-sell tables (free to members, please ignore during business meeting.) <u>Program:</u> An expanded Show & Tell featuring the many photographica treasures you liberated during our two month summer recess.

THEY CONTINUED. KNOWING THEIRS WAS A NOBEL QUEST:

Would you believe it !? This is the beginning of our thirtieth great year as one of the premier photographica collecting societies in the United States. There have been a whole lot of changes in the World since we began in the fall of 1979. But the two that have affected the club the most have been the development of the internet, and thus Ebay etc., and the invention...and kudzu like growth...of digital photography. There is no longer any interest in darkroom equipment and all those "user" cameras we used to buy and sell have lost much of their appeal and value. Shows are growing a little smaller each year and we collectors keep getting older preferring more couch time over treasurer hunting time.

However, as the Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society begins it's thirtieth year there is still a lot to look forward to. We will have ten fun filled meetings with our fellow male and female collectors. New treasures will be found and shared, new tales of the hunt will make us all wish that we had been there first. Our 2009 Show Committee is about to begin it's work for our April 4th Show. Our most enjoyable Christmas party, with gift exchange, is only three months away. And, most importantly, we get to continue getting to share our joy of photographica collecting with our fellow club members. What better way to spend the third thursday for the next ten months? Let our new year begin!

DO YOU HAVE ONE?

Don Tempel is setting up a very nice display case of older photographic items at the Lakewood History Museum which is located in the historic Colonial Center. (6211 Mt. Tacoma Dr. SW with hours 10 am to 4 pm Tuesday through Saturday) Don's display, which will change from time to time, has all it needs but one item. He would really like to display a snap-shot taken with a Kodak autographic camera. Whats important is that the snap-shot needs to have been "autographed" by the taker of the picture. Millions were made in the first third of the 20th Century but who has one now? If you do bring it to our meeting or call Don at 376-1200. All of Lakewood will be in your debt.

This Month's Mystery Question

Answers at end of Newsletter.

With thanks to the Arizona Photographic Collectors:

Who was the German Company that began making cameras in the 1930's and, beginning in the 1950's, produced a popular named camera line that included 35mm, subminiature, TLR and stereo cameras?

★ ★ ★ BACKSIDE INFORMATION ★ ★ ★

The June 19th meeting of the Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society came to order at 7:00 p.m. There were 30 members and guests in attendance. The minutes of the May 15th meeting were approved as read.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS:

There were no items to discuss. Our September meeting will be on the 18th.

SHOW & TELL:

Five members brought in some very interesting items to Show. Thank you all.

PROGRAM:

The program was for members to bring in their most unusual Photographic item(s) from their collections to show the Club. Four members brought in some truly fun and unusual items. The variety and quality of each of them was outstanding. Great job!

AUCTION AND DOOR PRIZE:

Six of the seven items put up for auction sold for a total of \$79.00.

Don Friend and David Rystrom won the door prizes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m. for more selling, conversation and nummie munching.



COME BACK AND RE-JOIN US FOR 2009

Some of you receiving this newsletter chose not to re-new your club membership in 2008 and are now our delinquent members (you know who you are.) We thought we would send you one last copy of The Bellows in hopes that you will reconsider your decision to leave us and rejoin for our 30th great year. If you don't..good-bye, it was nice to know you. If you do rejoin...Hello again, it is great to have you back! Remember, dues are only \$20.00 per year and should be paid to Shirley at our meeting or use her address at the bottom of page two. Hope to see you at the meeting.



THE BELLOWS Newsletter is published 10 times per year by Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc. Information for The Bellows should be sent to Bill Kimber, 1413 Weathervane Drive, Tacoma, WA 98466-5712, (253) 564-4046, billkimber@webtv.net

The P.S.P.C.S. internet address is www.pspcs.org

Dues are \$20.00 per year and should be sent to Secretary/Treasurer Shirley Sparrow, 300 Pease Road, Cle Elum, WA 98922, (509) 674-1916, sesparrow9@msn.com P.S.P.C.S. members receive first notification of our yearly April show.

PRESIDENT: DARREL WOMACK (206) 244-6831 DARRELCAM@COMCAST.NET

Perfidious Kodak: the 620/120 film dilemma

George Eastman's Kodak empire produced many wonderful things for photographers; plates, sheet film, rollfilm, printing papers of all types and the chemicals to process all of these excellent products.

Kodak also made cameras, cameras of all sizes, mostly for the amateur market. At first, in the late 1800's, each camera was introduced with a corresponding film size to go with it, ensuring that the owner would always buy Kodak film since Kodak was the only source of film for that camera. Clever marketing, George was a salesman.

In 1901 the Number two Brownie camera was introduced to make 2 1/4 x 3 1/4 inch negatives on a new film designated 120 size. This was a very popular negative size and was used in many non-Kodak cameras, so that non-Kodak films were also being made in that size.

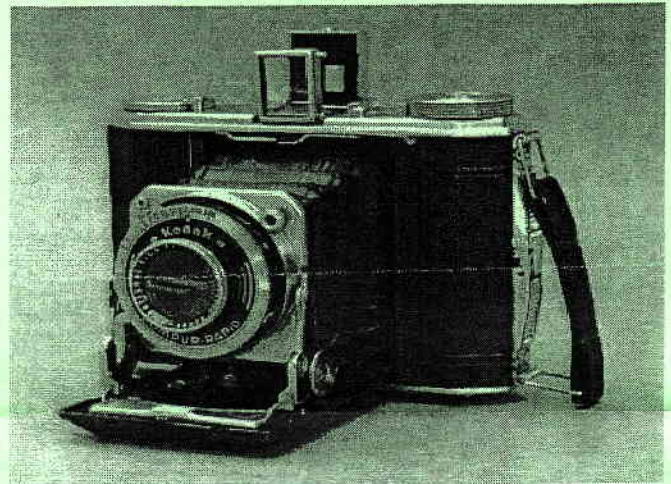
In 1932-3 Kodak introduced yet another new camera, the Duo 620, for making 16 half frame size on a new film designated 620. This was the same size as 120 but was spooled on a thinner axle with thinner and smaller ends. The official purpose of this new size was to enable smaller and slimmer cameras to be made, but the real purpose was to regain the exclusivity of Kodak film for Kodak cameras. I cannot think of any non-Kodak camera that used 620 film exclusively although I know of two English cameras that were made to use either 120 or 620 without any problem, the Kershaw Penguin, and the Agiford rangefinder. The idea that 620 film conferred a slimmer profile on cameras is rather weak when comparing the Duo 620 thickness of 3.8 cm to that of the Zeiss

Nettar 515 making the same size negatives, and which is 4.2 cm thick overall. Comparing just the body thickness, the Duo is 3.1 cm and the Nettar is 3.3 cm. Creating a whole new exclusive film size to achieve a reduction in camera thickness of only 2 millimetres seems rather over the top in the midst of the Great Depression, but as a way of keeping market share in Kodak films it was another master stroke for George Eastman.

All this research was prompted by my attempt to use a 120 film in my Kodak Duo 620. Using a real 620 spool for the take-up position is OK but the trouble comes when trying to shove a fat 120 film into a slim 620 compartment. The flanges are too wide. But as most 120 films are now rolled on plastic spools, the flanges may be cut down with nail clippers to level with the wound film. But then the thicker spool ends will not fit between the spindles. Compounding this feature are two small pins about 1/4 inch long that are set in the back door of the Duo and fit flush with the ends of the 620 spool when closed and jam tight against any 120 spool that dares to be there. This is a deliberate factory installation to prevent the use of 120 film in the camera, whether or not it is made by Kodak. This means that the 120 flanges would have to be ground thinner somehow and that creates plastic debris over everything. My eventual solution is to make the hole at the top of the spool large enough to accept the spindle stub and allow free movement, and this allows the bottom flange to rise up and clear the 'spoiler' pin. This was done using a Dremel tool with a tapered grinder poked into the end of the spool. Of course none of this nonsense was necessary before 1995 when Kodak ceased production of 620 film and made orphans of some rather nice cameras such as the Medallist as well as my Duo 620.

Now that I have loaded the film I find that the Ilford backing paper has very weak dotted numbers that make winding on a frame very difficult in poor light. Why do they do this?

Kodak Duo 620 MkII of 1937-39 a very well made



camera with f3.5 Kodak anastigmat in Compur Rapid shutter and unit focusing.

The Kodak Duo 620 was another excellent design from the Stuttgart factory of Dr Nagel 2 which also included the Retina, the Vollenda, and the 127 format Pupille. Today they are all expensive collectibles.

Peter Knowlden

KODAK MINIATURE CAMERAS de LUXE

Famous for Precision

Manufactured at the Kodak A.G. Stuttgart Works under the supervision of Dr. Nagel, Europe's foremost camera designer.



"Kodak" 620 DUO

For pictures 1 1/4" x 1 1/4" 16 exposures of approx. the size taken by V.P. "K"

Takes Kodak Film No. 620, "Verichrome" No. V620, and Super Sensitive Film No. SS620. Fitted with the very fast Kodak Anastigmat Lenses f4.5 or f3.5. Prices from £6.0.0 to £9.15.0.



"Vollenda" No. 48

For pictures 1 1/4" x 1 1/4" 16 exposures
Takes Kodak Film No. 127, "Verichrome" No. V127, or Kodak Super Sensitive No. SS127. Fitted with f4.5 or f3.5 lens. Prices from £4.0.0 to £7.10.0.



"Pupille"

For pictures 1 1/4" x 1 1/4" 16 exposures
Uses V.P.K. Roll Film (Kodak No. 127, "Verichrome" V127, or Super Sensitive SS127). Fitted with f3.5 lens. Price £15.15.0.

Hi-Res Cameraphone

Information Week, Mon Jun 23, 2008

Kodak and Motorola have teamed up to create a cameraphone that's designed to allow users to easily take and share high-quality photographs.

The Motozine ZN5 is a 5-megapixel candy bar-style phone that features Kodak's Imaging Technology, and it's the first handset in Motorola's Motozine line of multimedia-optimized devices.

"Today's creative consumers not only want to be the photographer, but also the retoucher, the exhibitor, and the critic," said Jeremy Dale, Motorola corporate VP of mobile devices marketing, in a statement. "The Motozine ZN5 lets them be all the things they want to be."

The camera is activated by sliding the Kodak lens open. The device sports an auto-focus feature, Xenon flash, and optimized settings for low-light environments. It also features multiple capture modes, including a panorama mode that automatically stitches together continuous shots into a single extended image.

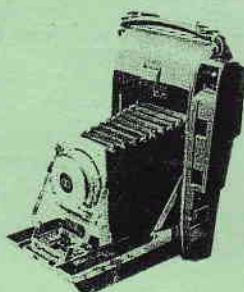
The cameraphone comes with Kodak's Easy Share Software to organize, edit, store, share, and find mobile pictures. Users can upload photos to a computer via USB, built-in Wi-Fi, or Bluetooth. Photos can also be printed out wirelessly on select Bluetooth-enabled Kodak printers.

To deal with all these photos, the handset comes with 350 MB of internal memory, and the memory can be expanded up to 4 GB via the microSD slot. The cameraphone has a 2.4-inch screen that can switch to landscape mode when shooting photos.

The handset also features CrystalTalk Technology, an MP3 player, an organizer, and a built-in FM radio. It's expected to be available in China in July, with other markets to follow.

The high-end cameraphone market is becoming increasingly crowded. Last week, rival Sony Ericsson launched the latest device in the Cyber-shot line, with an 8.1-megapixel camera.

See original article on <InformationWeek.com>.



For What it's Worth

Closing prices on Internet Auctions

by Rick Soloway

It's always hard to establish absolutely reliable estimations of value in the topsy-turvy world of camera collecting. Here are some real world closing prices from eBay. Realizing, of course, that the closing prices listed below can be over-priced, under-priced, under appreciated, mislabeled or categorized, lucky and unlucky. Here are some recent real-world closing sales values:

Perfecta II	\$0
Ansco Buster Brown	\$9.99
Canon F1 body only	\$40.00
Nikon F case only	\$15.50
Detrola E	\$16.00
Detrola G	\$ 9.99
Bentzin Primar folder	\$15.50
Canon Dial 35	\$61.00
Nikon SP2 2005	\$3800.00
Kodak Pony	\$27.25
Nikon w Photomic	\$155.00
Voigtlander Bessamatic	\$99.00
Neoca 35K	\$16.50
Kodak Bantam Special	\$371.34
Kodak Bantam Special	\$222.50
Plaubel Peconette	\$35.25

If you have verifiable closing prices on items that you watched, drop me a line at <ricksoloway@hotmail.com> and I'll include that info in a future article.

So

Who was the German Company that began making cameras in the 1930's and beginning in the 1950's produced a popular named camera line that included 35mm, subminiature, TLR, and stereo cameras?

Answer: The Wirgin Company from Wiesbaden, Germany produced the

popular Edixa Reflex 35mm SLR in a variety of different models. They also produced the Edixa 6x6, Edixa 16 and Edixa Stereo cameras. According to *McKeown's*, the Edixa name was invented by Charles G. Strasser in 1953 and he was also the proprietor of the Edixa trademark for Great Britain.



Photo courtesy <<http://camerapedia.org/wiki/Edixa>>